

that has no place in the vocabulary of the West-Riding.

There is no defect in the thinking faculty of the West-Riding; but its perceptions and ratiocinations, its inventiveness & constructiveness all are engaged in trying ~~how~~ to discover how to produce within ever-shortening periods, a larger amount of the 'manufactured article', and thereby an increase of wealth. From the humblest workman to the self-made millionaire every man's

Bradshaw Vicarage (24)
Halifax
Yorkshire
20 Dec 1881

Dear Sir

I beg to thank you very much for your very kind letter, and for your kind appointment of me to the living of Melcombe Horsey, which I very gratefully accept. I regard the change from this cold elevated inhospitable region to a Southern County

with all its contrasted
surroundings as a piece
of very good fortune -

In one of his books Goethe
says "What we desire in
youth comes in middle
life or in age" - I have
now reached the age of
fifty, and for many years
past my ideal of a parish,
and the one for which I
have earnestly longed, but
which I never saw within
the range of my acquisition,
has been an agricultural

district in the south, with a
small population, and ample
leisure for the pursuit of
literature and science -
Having lived for nineteen
years in the very neighbourhood
of Halifax with its manufacture,
its bustle, and its incessant
unrest, all which are the
leading characteristics of the
this busy West Riding, my
pursuit of literature and science
tho' perhaps not totally without
result, has yet existed more
in aspiration and desire,
than in actual fact.

Leisure is a word

I do not know whether there is any definite rule, or fixed etiquette in the matter of Nominations to livings; whether I ought to write to the Bishop's Secretary to ask him to write out the nomination and send it to you for signature; or whether the request should come to the Bishop's Secretary from the Patron. In my appointment to my present living I wrote out my own nomination, and sent it to the Vicar of Halifax, my Patron, for signature.

abilities are absorbed in L3
the endeavour to accomplish this one object.

Hence in the midst of a social environment which is the offspring of such a mental condition as this, devotion to the study of subjects which are of more than mere ephemeral interest, or that lie outside the range of the improvement of mere material well-being, is next to impossible.

Consequently Melcombe Horsey with its quiet and its calm, its leisure, and its opportunities for the study of subjects whose

interest extends over all time,
is the very sphere for which I
have so many years earnestly
longed, and into which, now,
through your kindness, and the
kind interest of Professor
Flower in my behalf, I am
about to enter.

My wife and myself both
beg to express our best thanks
for your kind invitation to
Rushmore, when on our way
to Melcombe Horsey, - which
we have much pleasure in
accepting. But, as I said to
Mrs Flower, when, before being
personally known to her, she

kindly invited me to stay at
their house, I am a very
plain, ordinary person, short
in stature, with neither bearing
nor presence; - and, my wife
will forgive me for saying it,
because it is true, that the
same description will apply
accurately to her, - so that
when we have the pleasure of
availing ourselves of your
kind invitation, we shall have
to cast ourselves upon your
indulgence. And I fear that
Professor Flower & Mrs Flower, in
their extreme kindness, have
imputed to me good points, to
which I have no legitimate claim.

Not knowing what is the usual custom, or whether there is any custom, I have thought that perhaps my least error, if there is any error, would be, unless you direct me otherwise, to leave the Nomination to the Patron, while I prepare my other papers for the Bishop, and ask him to appoint an early day for instituting me. Then, at the time of my institution, my wife and myself would go and look over the house, and see what we required, which we do not

at present possess, - how
carpets could be made to
fit &c., - taking the
opportunity at this time,
if convenient to you and
M^{rs} Rivers, of availing ourselves
of your kind invitation to
Rushmore. This one
visit to Melcombe Horsey
would be sufficient, and the
further expense of a
second visit need not be
incurred; so that after
making the necessary arrangements,
and after having ascertained

when it might be quite
convenient to the family of
the late Canon Bingham,
we could proceed to enter
upon residence at the Rectory.

Once more asking you
to permit me to express my
very grateful thanks for your
kind appointment of me to
the living of Melcombe Horsey

I remain

Dear Sir

Faithfull and Respectfull yours

Joseph Hall

Major-General Pitt-Rivers F.R.S.